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SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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Politics of Europe.

No further intelligence by the French Ship *NANTAISE* transpired in the course of yesterday up to the time our Paper went to Press; and we are not aware that any Journals have been received of so late a date as the Letters, of which we gave the substance yesterday; so that no light can yet be thrown on the question of peace or war between Spain and France; but we must confess our fears preponderate, as we cannot but dread the effects of a struggle in which much blood must be shed, the rising hopes of Spain probably blasted and its infant institutions and short-lived liberty crushed in the collision of military force.

After the political affairs of the world which involve so many interests, great national works are of the next importance. We have much pleasure in introducing to our Readers the following notice of the great Caledonian Canal; and cannot help looking forward with hope to the advantages the plains of Bengal may yet derive from an improved inland navigation, of which they are so capable.

Caledonian Canal.—It appears that the Grand National Work the Caledonian Canal was opened on the 30th of October last; after a period of 19 years from its commencement, and at an expense of a Million Sterling. The subjoined account is from the Observer of the 2d of December.

After a labour of nineteen years, and an expenditure of a million, on this great public undertaking, it has been completed and opened. Considered as a mere work of magnitude it has not, perhaps, its equal in the world; and its importance in opening a communication between the eastern and western seas, thereby avoiding the dangerous navigation of the Pentland Frith or the English Channel, will be highly prized by the mercantile and other classes.

At 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning, Oct. 30, the Lochness steam-yacht, accompanied by two smacks, departed from the Locks of Muirtown, on the first voyage through the Canal, amidst the loud and enthusiastic cheerings of a great concourse of people, and the firing of cannon. The morning was peculiarly favourable, although rather calm; and the banks of the Canal were crowded with spectators, a great number of whom accompanied the party from the Muirtown Locks to the bridge of Bught: the band of the Invernesshire Militia going on board at Dochgarroch Loch, and playing, "God Save the King."

The act of Parliament for effecting this important inland navigation was passed on the 23d of July, 1803. By a line of locks and rivers. Nature seemed to have invited the skill and enterprise of man to the undertaking, and, upon investigation, every part intended to be occupied by the Canal was found, with little abatement, to be very favourable to the purpose. It has been considered as possible, that in more early ages of the world, the immense chasm (almost two-thirds of the length of which is still occupied by water), has been nearly open from sea to sea; and that the land which now separates the locks has been formed from the adjoining mountains, wasted by time, and brought down by torrents from rain. The Commissioners held their meeting on the 30th of the same month, and set to work with a promptitude not in general so conspicuous in the discharge of public duty. It opens into Loch Beaulf, part of the Murray Frith, and near

Clachnacree, ascends by a cluster of four locks. It was found necessary to alter the course of the Ness, by throwing up an embankment of about a thousand yards in length, and twelve feet in height, above the line of ordinary low water in the river.

Near Inverness the soil is so loose, being composed of gravel and sand, that, in pits sunk for trial, the water rose and fell with the tide, and considerable apprehension was entertained that a proper foundations for the locks, and other necessary masonry, would not have been found, but, at length, one place was discovered of sufficient solidity to answer the purpose. The Canal then proceeds through Loch Doughfour, a little loch, which presented the greatest difficulty to the navigation on account of its shallowness, and the quantities of gravel which are carried with great velocity into, and through. The navigation then continues to Loch Ness, a distance of about seven miles, the advantageous length and form of which determined the undertaking. It is a noble piece of water, twenty three miles and three quarters long, and in breadth varies from a mile and three-quarters of a mile, and is nearly straight from one end to the other. Its shores are bold and commanding, and on each side rise lofty, rocky, and rugged mountains, irregularly cut into deep gullies, with frightful precipices. The depth of its water is from one hundred and six to one hundred and twenty-nine fathoms in middle parts, to eighty-five, seventy-five, or less, near its end, to the east. The sides, except the bays, are very steep; the rise being a foot in height to a foot and a half in breadth.

At the western end of this loch, stands fort Augustus, where the foundation of the lock near this fort, and on Loch Ness, is twenty-four feet below the level of the summer surface of the lake, which, varying in its height ten feet, rendered it necessary to cut a new channel for the river through the rock on the north side, in order to get a solid foundation of rock, the soil being too open to warrant the cutting to so great a depth. The canal from Fort Augustus ascends about five miles to Loch Oich, which is about three miles in length, and one quarter broad, and is in some parts twenty-six fathoms in depth, and in others only five. This loch is the summer level of the canal. From the western end of this loch, the canal is continued for about two miles, when it falls into Loch Lochy, a sheet of water ten miles and a half long, and its breadth, at the east end, near three quarters of a mile; from thence it increases, until in the Bay of Arkeby, it spreads to about a mile and a quarter, and is from seventy-six to seventy-four fathoms deep in many parts. On one side of this loch are high ridges of rocks and grounds descending abruptly into the lake. At the east end of this lake, is a complete little harbour, in which there are from ten to five fathoms water, admirably adapted for giving every protection to the canal, and safe and commodious for ships to lie in.

A new course has been cut for the river Lochy, along the bottom of the bank on the south side, where the canal occupies the deserted part of the river, and the lake has been raised twelve feet above its ancient level. The canal proceeds by Corpach to Loch Bil, which communicates with the Sound of Mull, and is part of the West Sea. At Corpach, a sea-loch has been formed, cut out of the rock, and a small basin made within it, capable of admitting a number of vessels with the flowing tide, which, after the gates are closed, may ascend the locks at leisure, of which the whole number will be twenty-six, and the sum

ber of lock-gates thirty-eight: these, by being in clusters, are much less expensive than in separate locks, on account of the back of one forming the front of next; whereas separate locks must be complete in all their parts. Bridges have been constructed of cast iron, similar to those at the West India Docks and London Docks, which swing horizontally to each side of the canal or lock. At the eastern end of Loch Eil stands Fort William, as far as which there is a safe navigation and harbour for shipping. In this manner the junction of the two seas has been effected. The canal is twenty feet deep, fifty wide at bottom, and one hundred and ten feet wide at top, and admits of the passage of thirty-two gun frigates, and of course of the largest merchant vessels. It was originally intended to have cut the canal so as to admit of forty-four gun frigates; but not only would the additional coast have been very great, but it was by no means certain that the depth of water in Loch Beaulieu, near the eastern entrance of the canal, would safely or conveniently admit the passage of frigates of so large a rate at the ordinary high-water depth. The time of passing a thirty-eight feet lock will be about twenty minutes, a forty feet lock about twenty two minutes, and a forty-three feet lock, twenty five minutes.

The smallest size of vessels trading to the Baltic, is about seventy-five feet in length, twenty one feet in width, in draught of water twelve feet, and in burden 120 tons. The largest size is about one hundred and thirty feet long, thirty five feet wide, in draught of water nineteen feet, and in burden six hundred and fifty tons.

This union of the two seas being effected, the amelioration of this part of the Highlands, and of a considerable distance round, must be great and rapid. New sources of industry and enterprise will be opened, new settlements will be established, new towns will rise, the fisheries will be increased, and agriculture will wave, where-ever the soil will admit, her golden harvest."

Solicitor-General of Scotland.—We have heard it rumoured that Mr. John Hope's appointment as *Solicitor-General*, is already in Edinburgh. We regret this deeply, because we consider this appointment—if it has taken place—as an outrage on all that is decent and becoming in the conduct of public affairs. We impute no motives, either to him or those Ministers who may have appointed him. We are willing to suppose, that in subscribing the Beacon-Bond, and in every thing which he did respecting that infamous publication, he believed himself doing God and his country good service. We shall hold, that in those elaborate productions, for the writing of which, by his Clerk, the sum of £. 4: 14: 6 is now claimed from the public of Edinburgh, and in all his exertions against the rights and privileges of his fellow-citizens in police matters, not forgetting his more special labours for the late Superintendent, he struggled for nothing but the good government of the city. And we shall take it for granted, that he really thought Mr. W. M. Borthwick guilty of crime which ought to be pronounced upon by a jury, at the expense of the imprisonment, privations, and sufferings to which he consigned him. But in being driven to suppose, hold, and grant so much as this, we were also constrained to think, that of all other men, Mr. John Hope was the least qualified, by temper, judgment, and knowledge of constitutional law, to hold the office even of Senior Advocate depute. And our conviction was rivetted by the manner and terms of his Letter to a Member of the Legislature who had felt it his duty to bring some part of Mr. Hope's proceedings under the notice of Parliament. We did not think that the House of Commons saw the affair of Mr. Borthwick in its proper light, but our understanding was that Ministers themselves had conceded that it would deserve further consideration in another shape; and we never doubted after what took place at the close of the last session, that the descendant of Sir Ralph Abercromby stood pledged, in the face of the whole country, again to bring forward the affair of Mr. Borthwick, for which Mr. Hope had declared himself responsible in a manner equally public and decisive. Mr. Hope had also complained of the proceedings in Parliament, while his conduct respecting the Press was under discussion in our courts of law. And believing that the real nature of his connection with the Beacon, would come out, in

the course of the proceedings at the instance of Mr. Gibson of Ingliston, we never dreamed of its being possible that any Ministry would so trample on public opinion, as to advance Mr. Hope to the second office under the Crown in Scotland, until the issue both of the action at law, and the discussion in Parliament. For Mr. Hope's own sake we should think *delay*, at least a preferable course; and for Ministers, infinitely more so; since we really cannot, with the utmost stretch of imagination, fancy a measure more calculated to throw the country into a flame, or more likely to produce all sorts of mischief, than the appointment to Mr. Hope to be solicitor General under existing circumstances. We have spoken thus freely, lest, from the reasons we have for thinking Mr. Hope a personal enemy, it should be thought that silence implied pusillanimity. But we fear nothing while discharging our duty to the public—not even misrepresentation, from which, however, the pleasure we expressed at another recent appointment, though that of a Tory, should protect us. It gratified us certainly, to see an able lawyer, and a worthy man, promoted to a situation which he must fill with honour to himself and benefit to his country; but we are ashamed to say, that we rejoiced most, because in that appointment we thought we saw a compliment paid to public opinion, while the interests of the country were attended to. Mr. Mackenzie, we believed, was a staunch Tory; but he had done none of the dirty work of party, nor in any shape compromised that character of which every aspirant for the Bench should be in possession. We looked upon his appointment, therefore, as a reproof to all those who had carried or assisted in carrying party contentions to the extreme of violence—as an earnest of better days for the country—but alas for poor Scotland, if a line of conduct like that pursued by Mr. Hope, since the commencement of the Beacon newspaper, is not sufficient to keep family influence in abeyance. We ought also to add, that our information is exceedingly inaccurate, if a Letter will not soon appear, accompanied by various documents, which would have deserved the attention of Ministers before they appointed Mr. Hope Solicitor-General. It has been considered, it seems, that a certain publication—very like Mr. Hope's Letter to Mr. Abercromby, in its style and manner—has rendered some explanation to the public necessary.—*Scotman*.

King William and Doctor Radcliffe.—The celebrated founder of the Radcliffe Library, at Oxford, was one of the most successful physicians of his age; and, at the same time, exceedingly remarkable for the originality of his character. He was distinguished in his profession for the sagacity with which he traced the causes of disease, and for the soundness of judgment which dictated his treatment. In the year 1697 the Doctor had an interview with King William, of a very interesting nature, and it is thus noticed in the memoirs of his life.

"After the King's return from Loo, where he had ratified the treaty of peace at Ryswick, his Majesty found himself very much indisposed at his palace at Kensington; and, as usual, after his physicians in ordinary had given their opinions, would have Dr. Radcliffe's advice. His spirits were then wasting, and tending to their last decay, and every symptom that appeared, gave certain indications that his Majesty was in a downright dropsy; however, those, in whose sphere it was, more particularly to consult their master's constitution, and the nature of his distemper; mistook it so far as to prescribe medicines for the cure of it which rather increased, than lessened, its malignity; at the same time, they assured the King, that he was in no manner of danger, but would be in a right state of health again, after he had taken such and such medicines and antiscorbutics, which had no manner of relation to his Majesty's distemper. The King, when the Doctor was admitted, was reading Sir Roger l'Estrange's version of *Æsop's Fables*, and told him that he had once more sent for him, to try the effects of his great skill, notwithstanding what he had been told by his body physicians, who were not sensible of his inward decay, that he might live many years, and would speedily recover. Upon which the Doctor, having put some interrogatories to him, very readily asked leave of the King to turn to a fable in the book before him, which would let his Majesty know how he had been treated, and read it to him in these words:—

" 'Pray, Sir, how do you find yourself?' says the doctor to the patient. Why truly, says the patient, 'I have had a most violent sweat.' 'Oh! the best sign in the world,' quoth the Doctor. And then, a little while after, he is at it again, with a 'Pray, how do you find your body?' 'Alas!' says the other, 'I have just now had a terrible fit of horror and shaking upon me!' 'Why this is all as it should be,' says the physician, 'it shows a mighty strength of nature.' And then he comes over to him the third time, with the same questions again: 'Why I am all swelled,' says the other, 'as if I had the dropsy.' 'Best of all,' quoth the Doctor, and goes his way. Soon after this, comes one of the sick man's friends to him with the same question, 'How he felt himself?' 'Why, truly, so well,' says he, 'that I am even ready to die if I know not how many good signs and tokens.'

" 'May it please your Majesty, yours and the sickman's case is the very same,' cries the Doctor; you are buoyed up with hopes that your malady will soon be driven away by persons that are not apprized of means to do it, and know not the true cause of your ailment; but I must be plain with you, and tell you, that, in all probability, if your Majesty will adhere to my prescriptions, it may be in my power to lengthen out your life for three or four years, but beyond that time, nothing in physican protract it, for the juices of your stomach are all vitiated; your whole mass of blood is corrupted; and your nutriment, for the most part, turns to water. However, if your Majesty will forbear making long visits to the Earl of Bradford's (where the King was wont to drink very hard,) I'll try what can be done to make you live easily, though I cannot venture to say I can make you live longer than I have told you;" and so left a recipe behind him, which was so happy in its effects as to enable the King not only to take a progress in the western parts of his kingdom, but to go out of it, and divert himself at his palace of Loo, in Holland."

Anecdote.—Porson was once travelling in a stage-coach, when a young Oxonian, fresh from College, was amusing the ladies with a variety of talk, and, amongst other things, with a quotation, as he said, from Sophocles. A Greek quotation, and in a coach too! roused our plumbier Professor from a kind of dog-sleep, in a snug corner of the vehicle. Shaking his ears and rubbing his eyes, "I think, young gentleman," said he, "you favoured us just now with a quotation from Sophocles; I do not happen to recollect it there. 'Oh, sir," replied our tyro, "the quotation is, word for word, as I have repeated it, and in Sophocles too; but I suspect, sir, it is some time since you were at College." The Professor, applying his hand to his great coat and taking out a small edition of Sophocles, coolly asked if he could be kind enough to show him the passage in question in that little book. After rummaging the pages some time he replied, "Upon second thoughts, I now recollect that the passage is in Euripides." "Then, perhaps, sir," and said the Professor, putting his hand again into his pocket, and finding him a similar edition of Euripides, "you will be so good as to find it for me in that little book." The Oxonian returned again to his task, but with no better success, muttering, however, to himself, "Curse me if ever I quote Greek again in a coach." The titling of the ladies informed him that he had got into a hobble. At last, "Bless me; Sir," said he, "how dull I am! I recollect now—yes, yes, I perfectly remember, that the passage is in *Æschylus*." The inexorable Professor returned again to his inexhaustible pocket, and was in the act of handing him an *Æschylus*, when our astonished freshman vociferated, "Stop the coach—halloah, coachman; let me out, I say, instantly—let me out: there's a fellow here has got the whole Bodleian library in his pocket; let me out, I say—let me out; he must be Person, or the Devil."

American Drawing Room.—There is not fault to be found here by civilized people—every thing is as it should be—rich without being extravagant—splendid without being gaudy. Every piece of furniture, from the beautiful lustré, chairs, glasses, and draperies, down to the footstool, is in accord, and does great credit to the taste of the mistress of the house, who I am told directed the whole. It is indeed the most perfect room I ever entered; but this

room, the house, my journey, all were forgotten, when I had the felicity of being presented to Mrs. Monroe. Her kind reception, dignity of manner, beauty and elegance, enchanted me so completely, that I had almost exclaimed with Savage—

'From every gift of Heaven, to charm is thine;
To gaze, to praise, and to adore, be mine.'

Is it not surprising that the Virginians, after having had continually before them such examples as Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and fifty other distinguished and accomplished men, and having exhibited to us such elegant women as Mrs. Monroe and Mrs. Madison, should in general be so deficient in dignity of character and polite manners? It is very rare to meet, among their degenerate young men, with a perfect gentleman. They are the most rude unlicked cubs to be met with in the Union.

Gigantic Bees.—Fuller, alluding to the large bees, supposed to be human, dug up in certain places, observes:—I cannot see how such can maintain them to be the bones of men, who must confess that according to the proportion of doors and roofs of ancient buildings, either as extant or read of, they must *ingredi et incedere prompti*, go in stooping, not to say lie along. Except the avouchers be as incurious of their credit as the traveller was, who affirming that he saw bees as big as dogs, and yet their hives of our ordinary size; and being demanded what shift they made to get in, *Let them, said he, look to that.*

Extract of a letter dated Valparaiso Bay, 14th Dec. 1822, received by a Lady of this place (Calcutta) from her sister.

"We have now no home, and know not when we shall have one—this will surprise you, and I must account to it by informing you of the great calamity that has befallen this place, which is totally destroyed by an Earthquake. The like has not been felt for the last 90 years, so it is a continuation of our bad luck to be residing here at this moment. The dreadful sensation we experienced I shall never forget; expecting to be crushed by falling walls before we could escape out of the house and afterwards dreading the earth might open to swallow us up. It was quarter before 11 on the 19th Nov. The girls were in bed, and we were just going into our room, when in an instant, the whole rocked so violently to and fro, cracking the walls and throwing down the roof, that when they, without clothes or shoes, rushed down stairs, urging us to follow, I never expected the bottom could be reached in safety: but by the divine goodness we succeeded in getting into the street, where we were joined by a party of our friends, who stripped off their coats to cover the girls, and urged us to get off if possible to a ship; there seemed great hazard in that at night, and 'twas expected that the sea would rise as at Lisbon; but as the ground was rocking under us the whole time, we agreed, and happily reached an Indian ship, where we were comfortably accommodated ten days. It is impossible to describe the distress of that night, the whole population running about, screaming, praying, &c. not knowing where to go for safety, two or three hundred were crushed in their houses; many just escaped out of their beds before their houses fell—Thousands passed that, and several successive nights, on the mountains without shelter, and with only a scanty supply of provisions;—many missing part of their families—every five minutes experiencing a fresh shock—so you may conceive what an agonizing scene it must have been.—Shocks, and some of them very severe, continued exactly three weeks—in that time, above two hundred have been felt, but on board we feel quite secure. We have hired the accommodations of a ship to pass the summer months;—no house is left habitable. Some live in tents and huts, and fortunately no rain is expected for four months. I know not what our future plans will be—but I think it probable my wanderings are not yet over. This place promises no advantage, on the contrary I think is threatened with many evils; and I wish not to witness more of them. Commerce is entirely destroyed by some laws lately passed. Poverty, famine, and disease will most probably ensue—and at this moment a Civil war is likely to take place as the troops have revolted at Concepcion, and are setting this Government at defiance. Every surrounding town within 80 miles is levelled to the ground—as all supplies came from thence (even vegetables and fruit for daily consumption) a scarcity of provisions seems almost unavoidable."—*Calcutta Gov. Gaz.*

Newspaper Chat.

Napoleon's Mother.—(Extract from a private letter, dated Rome, Oct. 12.)—The chief heir of Madame Letitia Bonaparte is her grandson, the young Napoleon, who, it is said, will ultimately receive an immense fortune. To her eight children now living, Joseph, Lucien, Lewis, Jerome, Elisa, Pauline, Caroline, and Hortensia, she bequeaths to each the sum of 130 scudi (37,000l. sterling) making in the whole 300,000l. The four daughters of Lucien are to have each a marriage portion of 25,000 scudi. To her brother, Cardinal Fesch, she bequeaths a superb palace, filled with the most splendid furniture, and rarities of every sort.

Fonthill. Mr. Farquhar having, through his agent, Mr. Henry Phillips, completed the purchase of that magnificent seat, for 330,000l. which cost upwards of a million, is now down there, with the son of the auctioneer, making out a catalogue of the varieties preparatory to a sale by auction. It is said to be intention of Mr. Farquhar to sell the estate, and that there are four bidders in the market the Duke of Wellington, Earl Grosvenor, Mrs. Conter, and the Marquis of Hertford.

Superstition. A person about 21 years of age died of a consumption, and was decently interred. About a fortnight after a person called on his father, and said his other son, then in Boston, was sick with consumption, and that he was understood to be the Sovereign of the *Gaels*, and well known in England by the name of Daddy Long Legs. *Morning Chronicle*.

King of the Mosquitos. In a conversation upon Change, respecting the *Poyais Loan*, a gentleman inquiring who this King of the Mosquitos was that had made *Sir Gregor McGregor* so noble a grant, his friend observed that he was understood to be the Sovereign of the *Gaels*, and well known in England by the name of Daddy Long Legs. *Morning Chronicle*.

A gentleman who has lately travelled through Herefordshire, informs us, that in several parts of fine turkey might be brought for 2s. a goose for 1s. 3d. a pair of chickens for 10d. and butcher's meat and provisions cheap in proportion. *Hull Paper*.

John Everett. John Everett the accomplished Highwayman, thus pleasantly describes a plundering adventure on Hounslow-heath: "Soon after our last achievement, my old comrade Dick Bird, and I, stopped a coach on Hounslow-heath, in which (among other passengers) were two precise but courageous Quakers, who had the assurance to call us 'Sons of Violence;' and, refusing to comply with our reasonable demands, jumped out of the coach to give battle; where upon we began a sharp engagement, and showed them the arm of flesh was too strong for the spirit, which seemed to move very powerfully within them. After a short contest, though we never offered to fire (for I ever abhorred barbarity, or the more heinous sin of murder) through the cowardly persuasions of their fellow-travellers, they submitted, though sore against their inclinations. As they were stont fellows, and men every inch of them, we scorned to abuse them, and contented ourselves with rifling them of the little 'Mammon of Unrighteousness' which they had about them, which amounted to about 30 or 40 shillings and their watches. The rest on the coach, whose hearts were sunk into their shoes, Dick fleeced without the least resistance. There was one circumstance of this affair which created a little diversion, and therefore, with my reader's leave, I will relate it: the Precisians, for the most part, though they are plain in their dress, wear the best of commodities; and though a smart Toupie is an abomination, yet a Bob, or a Neutral of six or seven guineas' price, is a modest covering allowed of by the Saints. One of the pris was well furnished in this particular; and flattering myself it would become me, I resolved to make it lawful plunder. Without any further ceremony, therefore, than alleging that exchange was no robbery, I napped his poll, and dressed him immediately masquerade with an old black tie, which I had the day before purchased of an antiquated Chelsea pensioner for half-a-crown. The other company, though before in the doleful dumps, for the loss of the coriander-seed, could not forbear grinning at the merry metamorphosis, for our Quaker now looked more like a Devil than a Saint! As companions in distress ever alleviate its weight, they invited him, with a general laugh, into their leathern convenience again, wished us a good night, and hoped they should have no further molestations on road; we gave them a watch-word, and assured them they should not; then tipped the honest coachman a twelvener to drink our healths so brush off the ground." See the last number of the *Retrospective Review*.

Wellington. The Duchess of Wellington received intelligence of the entire restoration to health of her husband early in the week, through the medium of a letter received by the Duke's sister, Lady Anne Culling-Smith, written about the 9th instant. In this letter his Grace says, "I expect to leave this (Verona) on the 15th instant, for England."

Ancient Encaustic Picture of Cleopatra.—(From the Museum).—Extract of a letter from Paris: "In company with two French ladies, I repaired, by invitation, to the apartments occupied by two Florentine gentlemen in the Grand Hotel, rue de Bac, and there I was shewn an encaustic picture of Cleopatra applying the asp to her bosom, which has been lately discovered and detached from a wall, in which it has been hidden for centuries, and is actually supposed, imagined, or conjectured (I am afraid to use too positive a term) to be a real portrait, painted by a Greek artist, patronized by Octavius Cæsar!!! I will not affront your dilettantship by describing what an encaustic painting is, but allow me to observe, that this one is painted, or rather done, on a blue state. The colouring is remarkably fresh, very like life:

"'Tis so divinely wrought,
That we might almost say her body thought."

Nothing can exceed the beauty of the face: the expression of extreme agony of mind and body does not at all impair the dignity of the countenance, or the harmony of the features. When we look on her, we think of Egypt's Queen, who said of the man who had seen her 'I think he hath looked on Majesty.' She is represented standing like one who is not resigned to death, but resolute to die in all the desperate energy of passion. Her neck and arms are adorned with jewels; she wears a crown, and her drapery is merely a blood-red mantle, thrown back from one side of her bosom, to which she holds the deadly worm, and knotted on the opposite shoulder. The drapery is heavy and ugly; but I really think I never saw a face better drawn, and flesh better painted, and 'I think I have looked on pictures,' Signor Micheli, to whom this precious relic of antiquity belongs, has, I am told, an intention to sell it, and I have heard it whispered that it has been offered to the King for the sum of 30,000 francs."

Irish Wedding. An affair of an extraordinary nature occurred a few days back in the county of Wicklow, which is likely to furnish matter for discussion in one of the Irish law Courts. The parties are exceedingly respectable, and the occurrence has plunged two families in inexpressible affliction. The marriages took place, two brides were escorted by their admiring grooms on the wedding day to a hotel not far from Dublin; they dined, took tea, supped, and then the ladies retired. The gentlemen unfortunately sacrificed a little too freely to the jolly god, and on retiring to bed, each entered the wrong apartment!—*Freeman's Journal*. Q. To what God had the ladies been sacrificing that they did not perceive the mistake?

Clirical Rapacity. In a village in the county of Rutland, barely three miles from Oakham, a custom has for some time prevailed of not paying any fees on the churching of women, &c. The new Vicar, who belongs to what is called the evangelical east, a class of persons equally remarkable for apparent piety and real adherence to the old maxim, "take care of number one," has demanded the payment of all fees. A poor woman, however, a few Sundays ago, not regarding the Vicar's demand, after being churched, left the church, as usual, without paying any fee. The Parson was determined not to lose his shilling, and he accordingly adopted an expedient, which for its ingenuity deserves to be recorded. He bought a couple of fowls of the women, and getting them into his possession, doctored a shilling from the price! But after all, it is greatly to be feared the latter will be hit, for the husband of the good woman has, to use the words of the country folks, put the Parson into the county court.

Comparisons.—A field preacher, who had been a printer, observed, in the usual harangue, "that youth might be compared to a comma, manhood to a semicolon, old age to a colon—to which death puts a period or full stop."

Miss F. H. Kelly.—Two or three years back, when Miss Kelly was performing for a short time at the Brighton theatre, Mr. Shiel accidentally saw her, and was so struck by the great talents which she then displayed, that on his suggestion, Mr. Harries immediately engaged her for the Dublin stage. Mr. Shiel likewise prevailed on his friend Mr. Meacready to give Miss Kelly some instructions before she proceeded to Ireland. Four years since, in Paris, where she had been sent to complete her education, she rehearsed several scenes of Shakspeare before Talma, who expressed his estimation of her talents in the most flattering terms and pronounced her voice to be the most comprehensive he had ever heard. It is asserted, that at her first performance she was not fourteen, and that at present she is only seventeen.

The proprietors of Covent-garden Theatre, with a liberality that does them honour, have recinded the original article of agreement between Miss F. H. Kelly and themselves, and have presented that young lady with a new engagement of 20l. a week for three years, in consideration of the eminent services which her talents have rendered their establishment.

English Literature in Germany.—A bookseller at Zwickan has published in a very neat packet form, *Waverley*, *Guy Ransering*, and *Antiquary*, in English, and intends to publish the whole of the novels by the same author. *Peveril of the Peak*, which has been so long announced, has made its appearance in German above three weeks ago.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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Vending Irreligious Publications.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, WESTMINSTER, OCT. 23, 1822.

THE KING V. WADDINGTON.

The information, filed *ex officio* by the Attorney-General against Samuel Waddington, for publishing "Palmer's Principles of Nature," came on this day for trial.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL, Mr. GURNEY, Mr. LITLEDALE, and Mr. SHEPHERD, appeared for the prosecution; the defendant attended to conduct his case in person. Eight special jurors answered to their names, and a *tales* was prayed on behalf of the Crown.

After three of the Jury has been sworn.

The defendant desired the officer to stop, as he had an objection to make before any more were sworn. After looking among a number of books, he produced the fourth volume of "Blackstone's Commentaries," and said he must be tried by a "petty jury." He proceeded to read a long passage respecting informations, which said they were tried by a petty jury, and he vehemently insisted that he ought not to be tried by a special jury.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—I cannot hear any argument to prove that you are not to be tried by a special jury, for which law has provided.

The defendant.—But I have law for it, my Lord.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE repeatedly informed him that he was mistaken in his course, but he persisted; and at last, after much violent language, said—"I will try some other points of law before I have done with you to-day."

The rest of the jury were then sworn.

Mr. SHEPHERD stated the substance of the information which charged the defendant with publishing a blasphemous libel on the Holy Scriptures and the Christian religion.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL addressed the jury. They had already heard the nature of the charge, and he would not insult them by reading the passages on which it was founded. He should ill discharge his duty were he unnecessarily to wound them with an anticipation of that which they must hear from the officer; and therefore he would do little more than express his opinion, that when it should be read, no human being could entertain a doubt of its character or of its tendency. The work entitled "Palmer's Principles of Nature" was a libel on the Old and New Testament, expressed in terms calculated to excite disgust even in the minds of those who were inclined to doubt the truths of our religion. The only question, he believed, would be whether the defendant had been guilty of aiding its circulation among the people. It had been prosecuted before; repeated convictions had been obtained against a person named Carline and members of his family to prevent its diffusion; and at last an end was apparently put to the trade in blasphemy, by a seizure under an execution. Here it was hoped that the mischief would terminate; but the defendant, having taken a part of a house opposite St. Clement's church, in the Strand, soon contrived means for renewing the sale. The shop was divided into two parts, one of which was occupied by a tobacconist, and the other was employed for the sale of pamphlets. Mr. Poole, the tobacconist, also occupied the second floor and the attic, the first floor being in Mr. Waddington's possession. The name of the defendant was inscribed over his portion of the shop, in large capitals. He himself attended in the shop occasionally to supply customers. Soon two placards were exhibited in the window—one "Palmer's Principles of Nature" and "Paine's Age of Reason are now selling behind the curtain"—the other, "This is to give notice, that S. Waddington sells nothing blasphemous or seditious; but he has a suspicion that some one under his roof does"—thus fixing the character of the publications sold. Within the shop, at the back wainscot, were the names of books, of which Palmer's Principles of Nature was one, with a hook against each name and there was also a ring fastened to a rope, so that a customer, by fixing the ring on any particular book, might indicate the work wanted. There was also a bag into which the price of the book was placed, and which was drawn up through a trunk, by which after some time, the work descended from the first floor. As crowds assembled round the door, it became absolutely necessary to put an end to the intolerable nuisance, and three persons were employed to procure the requisite evidence. One of these watched at a key-hole commanding to the room on the first floor, by permission of Mr. Poole, the tobacconist; while another purchased the work in the manner described and a third watched at the window. The man stationed at the key-hole saw Waddington in the room, and he afterwards heard him go down stairs, from whence he went into the shop, and was actually present when the book descended. In point of law he was liable, if the work were proved to have been sold in his shop; but if this evidence was believed, he would be found not only the legal publisher, but the actual and conscious seller. Such would be the case laid

before the jury; they would hear the passages, with which he would not defile his lips, and it would then be for them to see whether defendant could give to the case any colourable answer.

John Parton examined by Mr. GURNEY.—I am an officer of the police at Bow-street. I know a shop in the Strand, No. 200½, for the sale of publications. In April and May last, the words "S. Waddington," in large letters, were over the door. I have seen the defendant frequently in the shop, during that period. Several written placards were exhibited in the shop window, of two of which I made copies. (Notice to the defendant to produce the placards was then proved.)

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said he wished it to be understood by the gentlemen of the bar, that he did not give an opinion upon the necessity of such notice, under the circumstances of the case.

The witness proceeded.—One of the placards was "'Paine's Age of Reason,' and 'Palmer's Principles of Nature,' are now selling behind the curtain price 5s. each—No connexion with Waddington, the fanatic." The other was—"To the Forces of the Bridge-street and Essex street Gangs:—S. Waddington having seen them roving about his shop, like roaring lions, seeking whom they may devour, this is to notice that S. Waddington sells nothing seditious or blasphemous, but he has a strong suspicion that some one under his roof does." I observed the placards for one or two days, the last on the 2d of May, and the first on the 4th, when the defendant was arrested. As I watched the shop, I observed the manner in which the business was conducted. There was a trunk or spout in the shop, connected with the floor above. I have seen customers put money into a crimson bag, which then was drawn up to the first floor by persons whom I saw above. Then a book or two would come down by the spout into a box at the bottom. Sometimes the defendant, and sometimes one or two youths were serving in the shop. There was a speaking trumpet communicating with the first floor, the mouth of which was in the shop. There were, against the back of the shop, the titles of several books in lines, five or six in a line, and hooks to correspond, but only one ring. The customer, indicated the book he wanted by putting the ring on the hook "Palmer's Principles of Nature" and "Paine's Age of Reason" were two of the publications. The placards attracted a great number of persons about the window. The other half of the front, separated by a partition was occupied by a tobacconist named Poole, with a separate entrance from the street. On the 4th May, I, accompanied by Smith and Duke, also police-officers, went to Mr. Poole's. From the stair of Mr. Poole's premises, by looking through a keyhole, we commanded a view of the first floor, and saw the spout opposite the key-hole. Duke was stationed at the door which appeared to open on the landing place, but we did not try it. After some time, Smith and I went out into the street. Smith then went into the shop of the defendant, while I looked through the shop-window. I saw Smith receive a book which came down the spout. Waddington was not in the shop when Smith went in, but he came in a few minutes before the book came down. He entered from within by a door leading from the staircase, which is common to the whole house. We went with the book to Bow-street, and obtained a warrant, with which we came back to the house and apprehended Waddington. On a previous evening, I had purchased a pamphlet from Waddington in the shop.

Cross-examined by the defendant.—I cannot recollect what the pamphlet was, but I think it was your "Letter to the Editor of the TRAVELLER." I received that letter once from a youth in the shop.

Waddington.—I'll contradict you. When that the letter was published, I was in the prison.

[Here the defendant proposed to read a paper, but was told it was not the proper time, and reluctantly desisted. He proceeded to ask a number of irrelevant questions, accompanied by comments and protestations, amidst the remonstrances of the learned Judge, who at length said—"Have you comprehension to understand me?" to which Waddington replied, "Yes, a great deal too much for this Court, I believe." He then proceeded to ask the witness questions respecting what he had sworn at the Mansion-house, with a view, as he said, of proving that he had committed perjury.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE informed him that no such evidence could be admitted. He might ask the witness what he had sworn, but he must take his answer. He could only contradict him upon some point relevant to the matter in issue.

Waddington.—It is material, most material; here they have brought up all the scum of the country to swear against me. If I can prove these men perjured, it is not material.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—I can receive none but legitimate evidence: really, Mr. Waddington.

Waddington.—What! if I prove that he took a false oath upon the four Evangelists—he was sworn on them then, and he is sworn on them now—and if he perjured himself, is that not a very important question? Gentlemen of the Jury, I am on my deliverance, you are to try me, am I not to ask about the information he laid?

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE informed the defendant he was at liberty to question the witness respecting the information, if he pleased.

The defendant then interrogated the witness to this point; and it appeared by his answers, that he had attempted to lay some information against him, but had not proceeded with it, because he was advised to take some other course, which, however, he had not taken. Waddington then adverted to the pamphlet which the witness said he had received from him personally, and asked if he ever read it, or whether any one ever read it to him? but he replied in the negative.

Mr. GURNEY objected to this as irrelevant.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE thought it not altogether so, as it might bear on the credibility of the witness's narrative.

The defendant went on, and after much violent language, asked the witness, if there were not pamphlets and books in the shop-window?

Witness.—There were some.

Waddington.—What! and can you see through them, and a double window not corresponding, and a curtain? answer that, I say.

Witness.—There was no curtain where I saw you.

Waddington (holding up a hat). Can you see through that hat? Can you see through a sheet of brown paper? Your eyes are pretty sharp I know; but do you mean to swear you can see through a sheet of brown paper?

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE begged he would not persist in such an absurd question.

The cross-examination continued in the same style. The witness denied that Waddington had refused to sell him particular books, and said he had bought the "Republican" of him in the same shop. As the defendant was proceeding in a very outrageous course.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said, there is something which strikes me in the manner of this person, and which makes me think another course would be better.

Mr. GURNEY.—I can assure your Lordship, that the suspicion your Lordship has expressed is not well founded.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—Well, let us hear.

On further cross-examination, the witness stated, that he had said "he would be a better friend to the defendant;" and admitted having replied to some of his abuse after he was in his custody. The copy of the placards produced was in Duke's hand writing, not in his own. He did not give evidence to Bow-street against the defendant, though he was present when he was examined.

The defendant continued commenting on the answers, and exclaimed that "A host of incendiaries were arrayed against him."

Mr. GURNEY rose and said this was not to be endured.

The defendant.—I do not know whether I shall have justice, but expose the parties: I will. Gentlemen of the jury, I know you are to try me; it is said that Sodom and Gomorrah would not have been destroyed if there had been ten righteous men found there; and if there be one righteous man among you, I shall defeat these incendiaries—these common informers.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—Really, I have great difficulty in this case—there is a course, you know—

Mr. GURNEY.—Indeed, your Lordship mistakes; there is no ground for the suspicion.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—The indications are very strong. But however, the case must not be stopped.

The defendant continued to cross examine nearly in the same manner. The witness admitted that he offered to shake hands with him but denied having said that "he had no hand in the prosecution," or that "he would provide the defendant with a lodging."

On re-examination, the witness explained that he had originally copied the placards in pencil, and that Smith had copied them thence in his presence. The pencilled copies were produced, and found to correspond with those already read.

William Smith, examined by the SOLICITOR GENERAL.—I am an officer of Bow street. I remember going on the 4th of May with the last witness and Duke to the defendant's shop. Mr. Poole allowed us to remain in his house during the day. Duke was stationed on the staircase for the purpose of observing the first floor. He joined me and Purton in the afternoon in the back parlour. While we were there, Poole's daughter came down to us. In consequence of what she said, Duke went up stairs, and I and Purton out of the house. I went into the shop while Purton remained on the outside. I saw the names of books written on the wall, with hooks attached to each, and a cord with a ring. I pulled it down, and put it opposite to the name of "Palmer's Principles of Nature." I said, through the speaking trumpet, "Have

you got that?" speaking loud. I put the money in the bag, and it went up. I knew the price to be 5s. from its being written opposite the book. I put in two half crowns. In a short time, and before I got the book, Waddington came into the shop from within, and offered me a chair to sit down. Soon after the book came down the spout, and I picked it up from the floor. The defendant was there at the time. I left the shop, met Purton, and showed him the book, which I marked before it went out of my hands.

The defendant began to cross-examine this witness respecting what he had sworn before the Magistrate; and dealt largely in charges of perjury.

Mr. GURNEY inquired whether what the witness had then sworn was taken down in writing; and, on his answer in the affirmative, objected to any question respecting it unless the examination were produced.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE held the objection valid, and explained it to the defendant.

The defendant. Then will you send for the book here?

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE. I have no power to order it.

The defendant. Well, never in any Court did I hear any thing like this. You are only a public servant, you are paid for trying me, and very well paid, and I must have a fair hearing.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE. You and every man is entitled to it; but we must observe the rules of evidence. Will you understand?

The defendant.—Yes, I do understand, and so does Mr. Copley here; he had different opinions before he was appointed solicitor-general; but all of you, from the Judge to the Crier, are public servants and ought not to prevent the jury from giving a verdict for which they must answer to their Creator at the day of judgment.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL.—I have treated the defendant with no illiberality—I have only done my duty.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—Will you attend? By the law, you cannot ask this witness respecting that which is in writing.

The defendant.—Show me the Act of Parliament, and I'll obey it. Is what your Lordship says law?

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—In this place what I say must be so taken.

The defendant persisting in repeating the question,

Mr. GURNEY interposed, and desired the witness not to answer it.

The defendant.—I shall deal with you, too, Mr. Gurney, before I have done.

It appearing that the witness had said something which was not taken down, he was asked respecting it. He was asked whether he had not sworn the libel was blasphemous, but could not recollect the passage and whether the book was not given him shut? but nothing was abstracted from his answers.

Robert Duke, examined by Mr. GURNEY.—On the 4th of May I went with Smith and Purton to the house of Mr. Poole. I was stationed upon the staircase. In the evening I left my post for a time, and went into the back parlour. While I was there, Poole's daughter came and spoke to me. Upon this, Smith and Purton went out, and I went up stairs. I looked through the keyhole of the door into the front room over the shop. I saw in the room a little boy and the defendant. There was a candle in the room nearly facing the door. While at the door, I heard Smith's voice from the shop—"Have you got that?" I retired a few steps higher, and saw Waddington come out of the room and go down stairs, and heard money clinking in his hand. Shortly after I went down into the street. I joined Smith, and went with him and Purton to Bow-street.

John Ewer Poole, examined by Mr. LITLEDALE.—I carried on the business at No. 201, Strand, occupying the half shop, second floor, attic floor and kitchen on the basement story. When first I lived there, a person named Clarke, bookseller, had the half of the shop, the first floor, and third floor. Waddington succeeded Clarke, and occupied the same portion of the premises. He came about a fortnight Lady-day, and continued there till the 4th of May, when he went to prison. His name was painted in large letters over the door and window, and the No. 200½. There was a placard in the window. The witness stated the substance of the caution to "The Essex and Brigs street Gangs." In consequence persons applied to me for works. The officers came to my house on the 4th of May, and remained in my parlour, except Duke, who was on the stairs nearly the whole day. My daughter was occasionally on the stairs.

Jane Poole, examined by the SOLICITOR GENERAL.—I remember the officers coming on the 4th of May to my father's house. Duke watched on the stairs that day. When he went into the parlour, I was on the stairs, a few steps above the first floor. I saw the defendant come up and go into the front room on the first floor. I went down and told the officers. Before he went in, he looked first up and then down the

stairs, but he could not see me in the place I stood. Duke went out, and afterwards Purton.

On cross-examination, this witness said that there were two rooms on the first floor, that next the stairs leading to another. She believed the further room to be the defendant's chamber.

This was the case for the prosecution.

The defendant began his defence, by stating that he was brought here by *Diabolus Regis* (*Diabolus Regis*, as he called him) the King's Attorney-General. He then proceeded in a very incoherent and unconnected manner, to justify, as he said, the conduct which he had pursued. It would seem, according to his statement, that the Attorney-General was determined to get at him by hook or by crook—that his prosecutors, right or wrong, were bent upon his destruction; but their cunning was not equal to their ill will, for on the present occasion they had utterly failed in proving him to be either the publisher of, or trader in, the book in question. Why had the Attorney-General, who was the *Diabolus Regis* (Waddington's words,) brought an *ex officio* prosecution against him? *ex officio* was one of the relics of the Star-Chamber, and a tyrannical proceeding: let the jury look well to the matter—what was his case to-day, might be theirs to-morrow. They wanted to make him the victim of a false conspiracy. Who were his prosecutors? Police-officers and spies, hunters of blood money, pursuers of game, the jury knew all that; and besides, there was the Society for the Suppression of Vice at the head of all this; and who were they? The Bishop of Clogher was one of them; and who was he? a man who had done more to profane the Christian religion than all the blasphemers and deists that had ever lived; yet this Bishop was permitted by the Government to escape, while he (Waddington) was prosecuted. Why did not the Parliament interfere?—they were sitting at the time: a former Parliament had inferred with the concerns of a Bishop, in the reign of Queen Ann. Here it is, said the defendant, holding up an old book; and there would be found the proof of the confiscation of the Bishop's lands and possessions: so that one Bishop was let to escape the gallows, and the other to have his lands seized: was this fair dealing of the Government?

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—Had you not better apply yourself to your own case? We know nothing here of what you are alluding to; perhaps, for aught that can be now said, the case may yet be brought here: apply yourself to your own case.

The defendant.—I am doing so, my lord; I must clear myself to the jury in my own way.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—Yes, you can do so; but it must not be in an irrelevant manner.

The defendant.—But have I not a right to know what the Government was about, when they seized one man and let another go? He then proceeded to deny all knowledge of the publication; he had nothing whatever to do with it, it was no affair of his; but as they had brought him into Court, he would show them their folly, as well as the impolicy of selecting him for such a prosecution. It would have been much better to have let him remain at home: not that he was sorry they had dragged him into court, for now that he was before his country he should explain the matter. He would say as Paul did to King Agrippa—"How happy am I, if only allowed to answer my accusers." Now he would set one set of opinions against another, and he should ask how the clergy would come off when the balance was struck between them, for their gross and scandalous neglect of the doctrines which they preached, and their covetousness and immorality. "Here," said he, "are two books, one of them relating to Whiston's Memoirs of Dr. Clarke, and full of information respecting the character of the clergy." He was in the act of reading an extract from an answer to Whiston upon some controversial.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said, all this is irregular and irrelevant.

The defendant.—No, it is not, my Lord; it is, I contend, quite regular.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said—No, it is not; you must go on in a regular manner. If the passages which you seem desirous to read are meant to apply to the clergy of the present day, they are a gross libel upon that body, for none are more active and zealous in the discharge of their duty.

The defendant.—Well, then, am I not to be allowed to convince the Jury how impolitic this prosecution is?

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—Endeavour to convince them in any manner you please, so you proceed regularly.

The defendant.—It is my duty to defend myself in the best way I can: am I, my Lord, to have my defence shaped by the Judge?

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—No; but it is the duty of that judge to tell a defendant who is proceeding irregularly, that he cannot be permitted to utter libels upon others, not in any manner before the Court, when

he is himself called upon to answer a specific charge having no connexion with them.

The defendant.—If what I am uttering is wrong, and what I read a libel, then the jury will visit it upon me; but I hope I may not be interrupted.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—I shall not interrupt you, except where my duty requires it.

The defendant then recurred to the controversial book which he had been quoting, and was again in the act of reading a passage reflecting upon the clergy of that day, when

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE again said, "I will not allow you to go on in this manner."

Several of the jury rose at this moment, and said that they could not listen to matter so irrelevant.

The defendant.—My Lord, I did not know before, that any Judge, that any man at the bar, or that any juror could disturb any defendant when he was addressing them—is it right? Consider my case, gentlemen of the jury; it is your province alone to do so—the Judge has nothing to do with the matter. I am in your hands, not in the hands of the Court—it is you who have the power, gentlemen, in this case—you can do more than the King, he could not send me out of Court; but you can by acquitting me—you can do so at this moment. If I am sentenced by the Judge, without the jury being allowed by that Judge to hear my defence, his name will be handed down to posterity as the most nefarious and tyrannical Judge that ever sat upon the bench.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said, "I am not afraid, gentlemen of the jury, of being affected in the mind of posterity by what the defendant has said."

The defendant.—But, my Lord, will you not hear me? If your Lordship would only have a little more patience, we should much sooner come to a point—indeed, we should my Lord.

This last expression caused some laughter, which induced the Lord Chief Justice to remark, that there were several persons in Court who had no apology for interrupting the proceedings, and he should punish those who behaved so indecently.

The defendant.—Well, my Lord, I shall now refer to the Bible. I have already adverted to what Paul said to King Agrippa, and now call your attention to Nicodemus, and implore the jury to judge in righteousness—"in righteousness should'st thou judge thy neighbour." He proceeded then to repeat that the Attorney-General's *ex officio* prosecution had ruined him in his affairs—he had lost his capital and his trade by it, though he was here proud to have an opportunity of justifying himself. He held in his hand another book, written by a reverend divine, for the purpose, as its title stated, of "distinguishing truth from falsehood." It contained exactly his own sentiments upon the subject of religious controversy; indeed, so much so, that if he had attempted to publish his own opinions, he would only have been guilty of a plagiarism upon this very book. He would give a great deal to make his prosecutors read it. What a compliment they paid Christianity when they instituted the present prosecution. In the first place, the attempt to ruin him would give complete circulation to the libel itself—that would inevitably follow from these proceedings of this day. His prosecutors were wrong, and why? Because they were weak in the faith; they did not place the confidence which as Christians they were bound to place in the Deity. He who made the universe, and made all men, knew how to correct all evil without the aid of man. How dared they to profane God by undertaking his work? They who did so were no Christians—they were themselves the real blasphemers; they said agricultural plenty was the cause of the sufferings of the country—that was to say, that what the beneficence of God had done for the poor was an evil. "O what a use the Solicitor-General would have made of such a theme, said Waddington, "if, instead of being my prosecutor, he had been my defender. Then, indeed, he would have ably advocated my cause, if I could have put money into the voracious mouths of the law." He then returned again to Whiston's book, and

A Juror remarked that he was only injuring his own cause by doing so.

The defendant resumed, and said that the jury might do with him as they liked, he should not trouble them with any evidence; for, in fact, the prosecutors had done nothing in the way of proof against him. If he was to be convicted because a book was given out in a room which he was obliged to let in his house, then the sooner the jury went home and looked after their own houses, the better. If any one of them was, as he had been, compelled to let a room to a lodger, to help him to pay his rent and taxes, and keep his family out of a workhouse, and to be held responsible for what was done in that room, the sooner he turned the lodger out the better, for he might depend upon it, that he would find it easier to let the rent remain unpaid, and send his family to the workhouse, then expose himself to an *ex officio* prosecution. If they knew

the sort of place into which he had been sent in Newgate, they would have felt for his sufferings; for they would not have turned a brute animal into such confinement. See how he had been treated there. Here the defendant read from a newspaper an account of his being tossed in a blanket as "Little Waddington," by some of the prisoners in a wanton frolic. It was true he was little, but that was no crime—he had not made himself—he had no right to have his back severely hurt by being tossed in a blanket because he was little. Mr. Alderman Wood and other gentlemen had inquired into the outrage, and one convict was ordered to be sent quickly into his sentence of transportation, for being a party in it; that he (defendant) did not wish, for the man had a family, and he wished nobody to suffer upon his account. He should not trespass further on the jury, but would leave the case to them as it stood, without any proof by the prosecutors: he was sorry he was interrupted in his defence; for the books (Whiston's) were, he said, really worth reading; however, he should publish his defence and justification in another form, and the public would judge of it.

He then sat down, and put his books into a large writing desk, which he had placed on the floor of the Court; at the same time giving a significant nod to the Solicitor-General, and saying to him "You shan't reply, for I am calling no witnesses."

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE briefly recapitulated the evidence to the jury, and left it to them to consider whether there was evidence of publication on the part of the defendant. It was quite unnecessary to prove that he sold the book with his own hands: if he were in any manner indirectly assisting in the sale, that would be sufficient evidence against him.

One of the Jurors asked, whether a book denying the divinity of our Saviour was or was not a libel in the eyes of the law—he wished this information for the satisfaction of his conscience.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—There can be no doubt gentlemen that any book denying the divinity of Christ is a libel, for Christianity is a part of the law of the land; that is denying it in the words of this book, there can be no doubt that such a book is a libel.

The Jury, after a minute's consideration, returned a verdict of Guilty.

Little Waddington, who had left the Court a few minutes before was in the act of returning, when he was informed by a friend of the verdict; he immediately took to his heels and ran up King-street leaving his desk and papers upon the shoulders of a friend to bear the burden of Whiston's controversy.

Fine Arts.

THE WORKS OF ANTONIO CANOVA, ENGRAVED IN OUTLINE BY HENRY MOSES.

More than a century has elapsed since the twilight of graphic genius in Italy glimmered on the canvas of CARLO MARATTI. In this dismal effect of despotism on the human intellect, Sculpture has had its share, as well as most other honourable pursuits of mind. CANOVA has been the only instance of any peculiar brilliancy in that art during a long period; and now that he is deceased, the sun of intellectual glory in Venice appears to have set in the gloomy atmosphere of Austrian oppression, till the period, we trust, shall arrive, when liberty shall again enliven the once gay but now solitary city,—the once warlike and art-triumphant queen of the Adriatic. But in paying this tribute to the last of the artists of Italy, we desire not to be included among many who regard him as the best Sculptor that has lately appeared in Europe; for great as his talents were, we think that those of our FLAXMAN and CHANTREY are greater. We admit, that the hitherto exclusive practice of the latter artist in less elevated subjects than those usually selected by CANOVA, would render the comparison between their respective degrees of merit almost impracticable, were it not for the maxim with us, that to be first-rate in a secondary walk, is more honourable than to be second-rate in the highest. Who, for instance, would not rather be the sculptor of or possess the *Sleeping Child* by CHANTREY, than the *Hebe* by CANOVA, as seen in local contact some years back at Somerset House? for, simple as CHANTREY's subject is, it displays in the feet, and hands, in the dress, the individual parts, and general composition, a much purer taste than does the *Hebe*, with more accurate proportions and delicacies of form, and a nearer approach to the essential property of beauty in nature,—that property which constituted one of the chief excellences of Greek Sculpture. A very considerable felicity of execution and elegant wave of line, a compact and well-arranged adjustment of parts, are the main beauties of the Venetian artist; but they are deteriorated by a comparative littleness of character, by occasional deviations from the select proportions of nature, and an imitation of the antique in its decline rather than of the pure and glorious era of PHIDIAS. Our FLAXMAN has a loftier and more truth-

derived taste, a more varied intimacy with and vigorous grasp of his art, whether in the tender, the passionate, or the grand. But still the beauties of CANOVA's Sculptures will render the forth-coming publication highly acceptable, engraved too, as it is to be, by our first outline engraver, Mr. H. MOSES. His well known certainty of eye and hand, varied power of line, and extensive practice, will ensure to us equal merit in the future numbers with that which he has given in the first. This contains five plates with explanatory and eulogistic descriptions from the tasteful and enthusiastic Countess ALBRITZ, who pronounces CANOVA to be "the greatest genius of our age in the Fine Arts," and that he was "doubly endowed by Nature with powers to excel either in the career of PHIDIAS or ZEUXIS."—The first Plate is a *Bust of CANOVA* from his own colossal work. Among her remarks on this Bust, the Countess observes, that "the animated attitude of the head is that of one whose spirit kindles with most glowing conceptions of beauty. His earnest and sublime look seems to traverse the immensity of space lying open before him, and his creative imagination to be forming those stupendous combinations which are to be embodied in his noble marbles." It is, indeed, a finely formed head, with elegant and earnest features, and, for the limited work it contains, has an extraordinary degree of force and finish.—The second plate is the *Monument of the Chevalier Emo*, which, the fair and fervent writer says, was "raised by a grateful country to the last of her free and illustrious heroes;" and she justly adds "is a composition of great ingenuity and admirable execution."—The third is a *Group of the Graces*. The "illustrious JOSEPHINE," the writer tells us, "committed to CANOVA the task of personifying these divinities, whose peculiar favourite she was, and who attended her even to the last moment of her eventful existence." If we cannot go all the length of the Countess's opinion, that this is an enchanting composition (having seen a faithful cast from it last summer in Mr. DAY's Exhibition at the Egyptian Hall, where it was in unfavourable comparison with RAFFAELLE's really enchanting Sculpture of *Joan*, and MICHAEL ANGELO's *Lorenzo*) yet we still think with her, that they are "lovely nymphs linked together in mutual embraces;" that it is "delightful to gaze on their finely rounded arms clinging tenderly round their sprightly glowing bodies, and their delicate hands resting here on a shoulder, here on a finely moulded back;" and that it is "a composition that finely personifies that abstract idea of Grace which prevailed among the Greeks."—The fourth is *Venus Victorious*, having in her hand the apple, or token of her triumph of Beauty over Juno (or Power) and Minerva (or Wisdom). This, for its superior snavity and beauty, her bending luxuriance of attitude as she reclines on the Grecian couch, the elegant costume, especially the braided hair,—in which beauty this Sculptor is especially skilful,—we would pronounce enchanting, could we divest ourselves of some critical reservation respecting a want of fulness of limb (a frequent defect of CANOVA's), especially in the bent arm supporting her head. Still as a whole, the effect is "charming." The last plate represents the *Goddess Concordia*, in the likeness of the Empress Maria Louisa; a majestic statue, sitting as she does enthroned with a noble amplitude of dress, and a look of candour and dignity. The engraver has adopted those correct degrees of linear strength which blend in beautiful variety the tender and the forcible; and his well known sensibility to the charms of form and character, with his knowledge of drawing, have enabled him to supply us, as he always does, with all the beauties in the originals of which his art is capable. We finish the inspection of the work with the full satisfaction expected from the eminence of the artists by whom it is produced; with an appetite greatly gratified, but keen for the relish of the next treat which the publisher is preparing for us in the ensuing Number. R. H.

Distressing event.—A most distressing event took place at Dunbar House, the residence of the Earl of Lauderdale, on Wednesday evening (the 20th inst) Some time after the son of Mr. Balfour, of Warrington, who is married to one of the daughters of the noble Earl, had been put to bed, the bed clothes, by some unaccountable accident, took fire; and before it was discovered, the poor boy, a fine infant about 4 years of age, was so dreadfully burnt, that he expired in about two hours. The unhappy parents were at hand: their state of anguish and distress is not to be described. It is a singular coincidence that a very short time ago, a false and most distressing report found its way into almost all the London papers, of the Countess of Lauderdale having been burnt to death.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

Attempt to Poison a Family.—A most diabolical attempt was made on Thursday to poison a family, in the village of Doune, near Stirling, by mixing arsenic with the potatoes they had for breakfast. Apocryphism has been gone into, but no distinct clue has yet been found to lead to a discovery of the wretch who has been guilty of so base a deed. The sufferers are a woman of middle age, her daughter of 17, and a son of 8 years of age. From prompt and judicious medical aid, the three persons are in a fair way of recovery, though still suffering from the effects of the poison.—*Scotch Paper*.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Proposed Essays.

SIR, To the Editor of the Journal.

The following trifle is at your service. If you can, now and then, spare a corner for other lucubrations, I will be glad to throw them into your letter-box. I need say no more; my first Number fully explains my intentions.
Calcutta, May 5, 1823.

CLIO.

NUGÆ CANORÆ.

No. I.

So we'll live,

And pray, and sing, and tell old tales, and laugh
At gilded butterflies, and hear poor rogues
Talk of Court news; and we'll talk with them too,
Who loses and who wins; who's in, who's out;
And take on us the mystery of things,
As if we were God's spies.

SHAKESPEARE.

And so we will. Let Moralists and Preachers belie by their practice, all the fine things that drop from their tongues; let Whigs and Tories stun us with obstreperous cries of radicalism and patriotism, and either slowly creep out of places, changing their doctrines, of course, as their interest happens to direct; let the Poet laureat eat "loaves and fishes" quietly amid romantic scenes in the country, and sing

"Away with melancholy,
Nor doleful changes ring
Of life and human folly;
But merrily let us sing.

FaHa!"

In a word, we do not mean to disturb or gall personages in black-gowns, or Castle—hs, or Welling—ns, or any courtly villain, poet, or punster—nay not even the East Indian JOHN BULL, or any other species of "creeping things." It is our intention to live while we live; we ever were and ever will be, of the school of the Abderan philosopher. How short is the term of existence allotted to human beings! Then, where is the use of sighing? Let us eat, drink, and be merry.

It may now be proper to give my readers, what may not unaptly be termed a Bill of Fare.

As to style, I have long since formed mine. Rhetoricians make two grand divisions of the manner of expressing sentiments; the natural and affected, or in other words, the easy and inverted. Among English writers, Temple, Steele, and Addison are models of the former; and of the latter, the illustrious Johnson, and a few others since his time. But, after all the deference that is felt for high authorities, as well as what can be adduced in favour of them, it must be allowed that peculiarity in style is not agreeable to nature; and is a bad thing. Goldsmith once said to Johnson; "If you were to write a fable of little fishes, they would talk like great whales." And, the sweet language of Pope would not have been preposterous in the mouth of Achilles, only when he was in petticoats. Well then, it may be inferred, that the best way of saying any thing is, to suit the language to the expression, and the expression to the language: to be familiar, on familiar subjects; on solemn, or on ostentatious occasions, to pour forth the melody of modulated periods.

Democritus loved to be among tombs and solitary places. Although the conversational style and light topics will commonly occupy my attention, yet, not unfrequently, will indulgence be given to strains of the higher mood.

I have had too much experience in life, not to be convinced of the futility of forming resolutions: there are a hundred things that we do, and a thousand things that we do not know, which constantly start up between us and our objects. I will not therefore assure myself of achieving much; and, my readers need not be sanguine in their expectations. In amusing myself, at

leisure, I hope to amuse others, and to add something to the aggregate of human knowledge.

Enough for the present. My next Number will give an account of the Members of the *Tit-tattle Club*.

Note.—Our agreeable Correspondent, of whose favors we hope for a long continuance, will observe that a prudent regard to place and time has obliged us to make one material omission; which therefore, and some other trifling alterations will, we trust meet with his approval.—
Ed.

Musical Entertainments.

"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast, to soften rocks, and bend the knotted oak."

SIR, To the Editor of the Journal.

In a letter you have republished from the *BULL*, it is stated, that Mr. Linton is getting up a set of Concerts, and that Mr. and Mrs. Lacy are expected at the Presidency. The Writer of the letter expresses a hope that they will unite with Mr. Linton, in order that the proposed Musical Entertainments may be as perfect as the first vocal skill in India can make them. All who have ever heard these enchanting singers, the Lacys, must concur in this hope. But if they are really expected at the Presidency, the Concerts should be expressly delayed for their arrival. For, why should we have a portion only of the Musical talent of Calcutta, when by waiting a short time, we can secure the whole; and at the same time insure the Musical Professors the utmost extent of public patronage, that they have ever individually or collectively received in India?

It has often been a matter of wonder to me, that we have been entertained with Concerts during the cold season only. Surely, if we can manage to sit out the representation of a Play, in a crowded theatre during the hottest months of the year, we may, with or without punkahs, endure the heat for the same length of time, while our ears are ravished by the harmonious strains of the finest vocal or instrumental Music. For myself I know nothing of the science of Music, yet could I listen to it for a long winter's night and feel no sense of weariness. Never can I forget with what wrapt attention I hung on each cadence of Mrs. Lacy's voice in that beautiful little Song of Moore's

"'Twas the last Rose of Summer left blooming alone,
All its lovely companions were faded and gone,"

and the deep pathos of the "dying fall" of the termination of it "in this bleak world alone" brings at once to our recollection the following passage in Shakespeare's *Play of Twelfth Night*; and we involuntarily apply it, at least I did, and instead of the boisterous "encore," which I could not for the soul of me have uttered, found myself mentally repeating,

That strain again, it had a dying fall:
O! it came o'er my ear like the sweet South,
That breathes upon a bank of violets,
Stealing and giving odour;

but if this effect be produced by the voice of Mrs. Lacy alone, powerful and harmonious as it is, what must be the effect of the union of the three voices of herself, Mr. Linton and Mr. Lacy; the rich intonation of the fine tenor voice of the former gentleman, is well known; and who has heard the astonishingly powerful base of Mr. Lacy, that does not long to hear it again? It was never my good fortune to hear these three singers together: but a union of such splendid vocal talents, must produce a combination of harmony that might enchant the hearts of the most senseless. Independent however, of vocal skill, have we not instrumental Performers that would do honour to the Concerts of London? Have we not a Delmar, and a Schiedlenberger? It only requires therefore, that the talent we can command be united, in order to ensure to the lovers of Music a rich source of delightful recreation. It is to be hoped therefore, that Mr. Linton will do his utmost, as he is always ready to do, to promote this desired end; and he will deserve, and I hope receive, an unexampled share of public patronage.

May 6, 1823.

A CITIZEN,

Imputing bad Motives.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

Nothing can be more illiberal or ungenerous than to ascribe to men improper or bad motives for their actions, unless their conduct will admit of no other explanation, since those motives whatever they may be, can only be known to themselves. Yet nothing is more common here, than to observe men, attributing to others, bad motives for acts in themselves perfectly innocent or indifferent, for no other reason but because such acts harmless as they may be, abstractedly considered, happen to have given them offence. It would not require much labour to produce many instances of this, but on the present occasion I shall content myself with referring to that presented in Mr. Cavendish's Notice in the JOURNAL and JOHN BULL of to-day. But before I proceed to state it, I must inform you, that the JOURNAL and the JOHN BULL are again in error as to this name, for the Mr. Cavendish married by Mr. Twisleton so long ago, is Mr. H. and not Mr. H. C. Cavendish; and if he has called himself, H. C. he has in his ungovernable fury mistaken his own name, or personal identity. What are the circumstances that have produced this ebullition of anger? why simply these.

It appears that a Mr. Guy Cavendish was married at the Portuguese Church to a Miss Isabella de Santo, but that the person who communicated a notice of this event to the Printer of the JOHN BULL, in his eagerness to be first perhaps, wrote for the initials of the Bridegroom's Christian name H. C. giving him two, instead of one, and writing H. C. instead of simply G. This as far as appears in evidence "is the head and front of his offence," and for this a Mr. H. CAVENDISH, not a Mr. H. C. for it appears that there is no such person, thinks it proper and necessary not to tell the public merely that he was married twelve years ago by the Honourable and Reverend Mr. Twisleton, but that "the purpose for which the above false communication" (that is the substitution of H. C. for G.) "was made, is considered to have been most base, malignant and deceitful" unless Mr. H. Cavendish can show very strong grounds for such a charge as he advances, he may find himself in the wrong box if the man he thus accuses of baseness, malignity and deceit, should avow himself and demand redress from the laws of the country; for they most certainly do not allow a man because he is angry, to brand another who has unintentionally offended him, with the vilest and most disgraceful epithets the language supplies, and I should apprehend that it would be extremely difficult for Mr. H. Cavendish to prove, that because a man wrote H. C. instead of G. Cavendish, that therefore Mr. H. Cavendish has a right publicly to call him base, malignant, and deceitful. But it is well known that persons who have been intimate for years, are frequently ignorant of each others Christian names, and for my own part, there are several of my best friends who in their letters continually address me by a wrong one. Suppose that I were to be married to-morrow, Mr. Editor, and one of these, in sending notice of the marriage to the Newspapers, should call me B. C. D. instead of plain C. D. would this justify a man whose name was B. D. in offering a reward for the discovery of the author of this mistake, and charging him in the Newspapers with being base and malignant? most assuredly not, nor could there be the least occasion for it. What would the public care in such a case, or what do they care in Mr. Cavendish's, about the motives that led to the error. It would have been sufficient for Mr. C. for the information of his friends to state, that the lady he married so many years ago, was alive, and that therefore the statement of the recent marriage of it referred to him, which he cannot prove that it did, was incorrect.

The error is one which might very easily arise in the Printing Office, for the Printers of the BULL having frequently printed the name H. Cavendish; in their Advertisements, and perhaps never heard of any other, might have taken the initial C. for G. and supposing it to be wrong have placed H. before it. It does not appear that they did so, but it might have happened. Mr. H. Cavendish should have considered this; and not because his consequence is a little endangered by the possibility of its being

imagined that H. C. Cavendish was meant for plain H. have directly concluded that the community at large is interested in knowing that he is in a great passion at the idea of his having been married in the Newspapers to a Second Wife. Whatever Mr. Cavendish may think, Sir, I can tell him that the angry effusion he has given publicity to, is not only likely to render him ridiculous, but is highly unjustifiable. If he has any grounds (for he has not yet shewn any) for the charges he has advanced against the unknown offender of his dignity, he ought to have stated them, and then he would not, as he now is, be liable to the imputation of having desperately attacked the reputation of another, without any provocation but a mistake on the part of him he so virulently abuses.

Mr. Cavendish's case however is only one out of many that might be cited to prove the prevalence of the practice of unnecessarily ascribing bad motives, and it has been carried of late to such a mischievous extent, that a writer in the Papers can scarcely venture to reason on any abstract proposition such as the evil consequences of gambling, the impropriety of furious driving, or the folly of extravagance, without having motives of personality ascribed to him. It would surely be possible and advisable Sir, to check, if not to put a stop to a practice so pregnant with mischief; and to effect this, I would suggest that no communications of any Correspondent, ascribing motives to others should be published, until the grounds on which such motives were attributed should be clearly stated; and not even then, unless they were deemed sufficient to justify the Writer in so ascribing them.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.

May 8, 1823.

JUSTITIA.

Hospitality to Travellers in India.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

I should have imagined that in a country so far distant from our own, and where we are again subdivided into small bodies and distributed in various parts, that the general laws of hospitality, would be more likely to be observed. Strange to say, however, this is not *always* the case; and I am sorry to find that there exist some men in India, who unless they are acquainted with the man, can, with the most perfect sang froid, see him pitched on an open plain in the month of April, when the hot winds are probably at their greatest height—without having the civility, or indeed, I may say, humanity to ask him to their house.

It is, Sir, to be recollected that there are many stations, particularly Military ones, where there are but very few bungalows, and these are immediately occupied by the Officers of the relieving regiment. This being the case, it is the bounden duty of one of them, even at the sacrifice of some small portion of his own comfort, to ask an Officer who afterwards joins, to reside with him at least till such time as he is able to build one, or take advantage of another's leaving the station, to supply himself. They should not enter into, I may almost say, a mutual compact, to bestow on him, no kindness, hospitality or attention, merely from his not having joined before, or from rumours as to his being a dandy, *mental* or *corporeal*; which rumours are possibly totally unfounded. Such conduct would be unbecoming Officers and Gentlemen.

I do not mean to say, that if there exist positive proof of a man's character being radically bad, that they then would not be justified in acting as I have said. And yet I believe that if one amongst them, from the dictates of humanity, rather than see the man perish and his goods spoiled from exposure to the heat of an Indian sun, did offer him an asylum, his conduct would, among the most rigid moralists, meet with more praise than censure.

I have, Sir, I am aware, brought a severe charge against some individuals, and the cap will fit those who know it to be their own: may they benefit from it and be more cautious how they behave towards strangers. It is with pleasure I add, that

I believe there are but few such inhospitable characters either in the Civil or Military Service; that there are some, I know, and it is for their benefit I write this: few others as yet probably do so, and they will do well to change their conduct silently and quietly, instead of attempting to exculpate it. It is one of the benefits of an anonymous communication, that it will annoy the guilty and at the same time not really injure the innocent.

Your's very truly,

MENTOR.

Note.—We are well assured that our Correspondent does only justice to the Servants of the Honorable Company in saying that Inhospitability is a fault very rarely found among them; and it is therefore the more necessary, when experienced, that it should be immediately denounced, that the fair character of the British Community in India may be preserved pure.—ED.

Mode of Raising Water.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Your Correspondent ANDAR, of Chittagong (see JOURNAL 11th April) seems anxious that the mode of raising water by boring and driving down iron pipes, as practised at Tottenham, instead of sinking wells when the springs lie at a great depth, should be introduced here, and wishes you to give a print of the superstructure or ornament part of the Tottenham Well, as it is called, which is an overflowing well, and cannot be imitated here.

The GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE for June 1823 [1822] and Supplement are quoted for an account of the boring implements, and method of using the pipes, with some account of the Divining Rod. Your readers will find an account of the Tottenham Well and figures of the ornamental parts in the MONTHLY MAGAZINE for July 1822, and a comparison of the prices of boring and digging. It is mentioned in another number that ten pipes had been used.

It might be advisable to try this method in Calcutta, as the Natives are much distressed for water in some parts of the town, owing to tanks having been filled up in consequence of the increased value of ground. Towards the East side of the town water is much wanted. A tank has lately been dug near the Burying Ground; but I believe there is no other public tank between that and Saum Bazar, a distance of 3 or 4 miles.

With respect to the expence, it would not cost much to sink a well to the depth of a few feet, to serve as a reservoir. The value of a borer in London is from £20 to 30. The links of some are joined by screws. The Natives are awkward in using this kind, and in drawing it up are apt to turn it the wrong way by which means part of it is lost.

I subjoin an account of experiments for procuring fresh water at some places near the sea. It is not necessary to detail the particulars.

The King's wells at Landguard fort, are twelve feet deep. Fresh water was found at 8 feet, when they dug to 18 feet they found salt water. The wells at Harwich are of the same depth.

At Sheerness they were not so lucky; the depth of the King's well at this place is 330 feet, it was finished in 13 months, and furnishes a large supply of good water. Before the well was finished Government has been put to the expence of £2000 annually for procuring water for the garrison.

In Fort William (Calcutta) there is a well which I believe was sunk to the depth of 50 feet in search of fresh water, but none was found. In 1814 the borings were continued to the depth of 140 feet, but with no better success.

The soil about Calcutta varies in quality, at one place I have seen sand at a few feet below the surface, and in another, blue clay at the same depth.

The water of most of the wells in Calcutta is brackish, but I have been told of a few which afford drinkable water. I have tasted some which was perfectly clear and limpid, and not at all brackish, and which I was informed was brought from one of the wells.

The Divining Rod or Virgula Divinatoria, which was formerly much in use for discovering mines, springs, &c. was a forked stick cut from a hazle tree, but there is an account of one in the MONTHLY MAGAZINE for March 1821, by a Mr. Partridge, which was made from a peach tree. It had extraordinary powers with respect to the discovery of springs of water, &c.

W.

Fall of the Minor Theatre.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

The Minor Theatre, No. 5, Zig-Zag lane, which was recently got up under the superintendence of C. Couch from Sadler's Wells, and J. Davis, from the Royal Coburg Theatre, London, no doubt is still quite fresh in the recollection of all your readers. This little place of amusement, which was erected on the very top of a lofty upper-roomed house, and which produced only two performances, was deserted by its conductors principally from mismanagement. The performers were, shortly after the 2d exhibition, all dispersed from the house, leaving behind the whole of the beautiful scenes, &c. for the Landlord, and these was lately sent to Messrs. Taylor and Co's Auction, and knocked down there for the trifling sum of fifteen rupees and eight annas.

The Bungalow which was erected on the top of the House, as the place of exhibition, and which consisted of Bamboos, Mats, and Tiles, was levelled to the ground, by yesterday's North Wester, without committing any injury, but with a very great noise attending its fall.

I am, Sir, Your's

A NEIGHBOUR TO THE LATE MINOR THEATRE.

May 5, 1823.

New Transit Telegraph.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

The advertisements in the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE informs us, that Banghies now pass regularly by the direct road from Calcutta to Napore; an improvement for which the Society at that Station are much indebted to the present active and improving Post-Master General.

It is added to the official notice, that "TRANSIT TELEGRAPHS accompany the despatch the whole distance." Perhaps some of your Correspondents can inform me, what is the nature of this new species of Telegraph. I have not been able to learn it, from any of my own friends in Calcutta. The name only puzzles me; for it does not readily occur why any instrument for observing transits, should accompany the Dawk; or how a telegraph is to be fitted up for this purpose.

It must be portable of course, for it is sent with each despatch:—but then again one does not understand what is the use of telegraphs to accompany the Banghies, when a letter by the common Dawk would be more expeditious.

The whole thing is probably some new invention, and any one who will take the trouble to communicate a description of this Transit Telegraph to the Public, accompanied by an intelligible drawing of the Machine, will no doubt confer an obligation upon many, as well as on

Your obedient Servant,

Dacca, May 1, 1823,

A MECHANIC.

PRICE OF BULLION.

Spanish Dollars,	Sicca Rupees	206	4	a	206	8	per 100
Doubloons,		30	8	a	31	8	each
Joes, or Pezas,		17	8	a	17	12	each
Dutch Ducats,		4	4	a	4	12	each
Louis D'Ors,		8	4	a	8	8	each
Silver 5 Franc pieces,		100	4	a	100	8	per 100
Star Pagodas,		3	6	a	3	7	6 each
Sovereigns,		10	12	a	11	0	
Bank of England Notes,		9	8	a	10	0	

Catholic Church Funds.*To the Editor of the Journal.*

SIR,

Kindly accept my best thanks for having inserted my Letter of the 5th instant. A PARISHIONER, I find, in this morning's JOURNAL, has thought my queries worthy of notice; but I regret he has not *explicitly* answered them. He says, "the Funds are laid out in the preservation of the Edifice, the purchase of Vestments and other requisites, and in the payment of an establishment of Organists and other servants." Granted; but will he kindly refer to the "Income and Expenditure" for the last four or five years, and say, whether these have been actually paid out of the Funds of the Church, or from one-third of the Fees "paid by the rich and the poor for Graves, High-Masses, Funerals, Offices, &c."

As my object is nothing but a wish to be better acquainted with the state of the Funds, &c. of the Church, I shall not again trouble you; but before I conclude, I beg A PARISHIONER will have the goodness (if he conveniently can) to give a more concise answer to my queries as published in your JOURNAL of the 6th, page 77. I wish to know whether "these (the Church) Funds are (really and truly) still employed in the MAINTENANCE of Ministers who Preach and perform other functions in the Portuguese language only? or whether they are "paid by the rich and poor" as the hire of their labour? If the former, the PARISHIONER will further oblige me, by stating, in round numbers, the amount paid out during the past year, for the maintenance of Ministers, leaving aside, of course, the sums laid out for Extraordinaries. The thousands of the Vicar or the poverty of his Coadjutors being irrelevant to my queries, I cannot thank A PARISHIONER for bringing such subjects before the Public.

M. A. M.

Selections.

Madras, April 25, 1823.—His Majesty's Ship ALLIGATOR came in on Tuesday from Trincomalee.

Passengers.—Captain G. T. Ryers, and Lieut. Potbury, both of the R. N.

His Majesty's Ship DAUNTLESS, Captain Gambier, sailed on Saturday last from that Port for England. Lord Thynne has returned in her as a Passenger.

The ALLIGATOR will sail to join the Commodore at Penang in a day or two.

The TERN sailed yesterday for Blackwood's Harbour, on survey.

The SOPHIE remains.—Captain Ryers took the command of her on Wednesday.—*Madras Courier.*

Ceylon, April 16, 1823.—We learn from Hambantotte that on the 6th instant, a small open boat with two Europeans and a native Crew was seen rowing to land. She proved to be a boat belonging to the JULIANA—Webster, Master, from the Isle of France (65 days) and the Europeans were the Mate of that Ship, and Captain Carter of the Hon'ble East India Company's Service. The subjoined narrative by Capt. Carter will detail to our readers what appears to have been a very culpable abandonment by the Master of the JULIANA of the persons in the boat to the most imminent risk of perishing at sea; from which they have been providentially saved.

"In the afternoon of the 4th in Lat 6d. 9. m. N. and Long. 82. d. 15. m. E. left the JULIANA in the 6 oared Cutter with Mr. Overstone Chief Officer, Native sailors and a servant boy on a visit to some friends on board the WOODFORD Captain Chapman, bound to Madras, with permission from Captain Webster to remain on board till eight o'clock, but with an understanding, that if Capt. W. wished the boat to return before 8, he would hoist a lantern, this he did about 7 o'clock, the Ships being then about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile distant; immediately on observing the light we got ready, and in less than ten minutes had pushed off from the WOODFORD, the ships then going apparently near 4 knots; Mr. O. remarked, that the JULIANA had not backed her sails, but as we considered it a momentary neglect, we continued to pull towards her for nearly an hour when the men beginning to tire from the severe exertion, and the Ship being

*The public should suspend their belief of this culpability on the part of Captain Webster, until his statement of the accident appears. From what we have heard every reason to believe that no blame whatever attaches to him.—EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL.

quite out of sight, we agreed to pull towards the WOODFORD, which we knew to be an inferior sailer, and who either carried a light or by having her stern windows open enabled us to perceive the Cuddy lights till near eleven o'clock, when we lost sight of her also. By this time the Lascars who had eaten nothing since 10 A. M. were nearly exhausted and we agreed to allow them some rest keeping two men pulling and the other 4 sleeping: We now knocked the bung out of a Cask of Beer which providentially we had on board, and from a small paper of Seaman's biscuit served out three to each of the men, and as much beer as they would drink, eating ourselves a bit of raw Ham which we were taking as present from Capt. Chapman; in the morning we had some unpleasant feelings from the knowledge of the Current; being about 40 miles to the S. W. of the Island, no land in sight, and very little provisions, neither mast, sail, or Compass and no water. We however stripped ourselves of our shirts, made the Lascars do the same, and with the assistance of a boat cloak made a fancy sail, which we hoisted and kept a couple of oars going, steering as nearly North as we could judge, till ten o'clock when the wind died away and the sun became so high that we could scarcely hope to steer correctly in addition to the extreme heat which must have knocked up all hands had we laboured, so we lowered the sail, made an awning and let all hands go to sleep but the servant boy, who being too small to pull, had had abundance of rest, and had orders to keep a look out and wake us if any thing appeared, this he soon did from a whale rising about 100 yards from the boat which continued in company so long, and so very near that we were obliged to pull away from him, the oars frightened him and he sank about 40 or 50 yards from the boat. We now lay down again, and at half past two, hoisted sail again for the land as well as we could guess, but were previously obliged to make a speech to the men who began to despair. We told them of the current and that on this night's strenuous exertion, depended our safety, as another day would carry us to leeward of Ceylon; but at the same time, we were confident of not being above twenty miles south of the land, the breeze freshening a little, we moved on about 5 knots per hour, and by 5 were rejoiced by an appearance of land; this ended as it were our troubles, for by 11 at night, we were close in shore, when we lay to, and at day light made sail along the coast, and at 10 A. M. arrived at Hambantotte where it is needless to say we were treated most kindly by the gentlemen at that Station. Their own feelings must repay them more than our thanks."

We received some English Newspapers which Capt. Carter received from the WOODFORD, which Ship however having left at the same date as the MAQUIS OF HASTINGS gives us no fresh intelligence. Capt. Carter and Mr. Overstone have since arrived at Galle whence they have been accommodated with a passage to India in the Ship LADY NUGENT, Capt. Boon.—*Coleombo Gazette.*

Elders of the Church of Scotland.—We understand that on Sunday last Richard Hunter, Esq. of the Civil Service, and John Smith, Esq. of the firm of Fergusson and Co. were ordained Elders of the Church of Scotland, and admitted Members of the Kirk Session of St. Andrew's Church, in the room of Messrs. John Macwhirter, and L. A. Davidson.

It appears that the SUSAN, which left Bengal in July last, arrived at St. Helena on the 17th of November, and sailed again for England on the 24th.—*Government Gazette.*

Attempt to Assassinate Col. Farquhar, Governor of the Settlement of Singapore.—We heard on Tuesday, a very distressing report, which we had very good reason to believe was correct; but in such a case, where in the family and friends of the individual concerned might have been alarmed without cause, we did not feel ourselves justified in noticing it without further corroboration. Now, however when we can do so, on undeniable authority; and moreover, when we can, at the same time, announce that no injury has been received by the respected individual, to whom the report alluded, we may, without restraint, inform our readers, that an attempt has been lately made by a Malay, at Singapore, to assassinate the Governor of that Settlement, Col. Farquhar. This vile wretch struck at his intended victim with his crease, while he was standing among, and talking to, a small guard of Sepoys; the baidar of which seeing the villain's arm arised, and his manner indicating his intent, put forward his own arm to frustrate the attempt; in so doing he received the crease thro' his hand. To this manly, and soldier like, interference, in all probability, the respected Governor owes the preservation of his life:—the villain was instantly dispatched by the bayonets of the soldiers—whose indignation, we presume, could not be restrained at this villainous, and murderous, attempt.

Indigo Planters.—We understand that some Rain has fallen at Jessore, which has occasioned the Indigo Planters to look up again; but we fear it has been so partial as scarcely to affect the general produce; indeed, it is much feared that the lateness of the sowing will not allow the cultivators to cut the plant before the Rains—and usual inundation. The present holders of Indigo, therefore, may be considered as having a very valuable article on hand; and we cannot do otherwise, than expect a great rise in the price.—*John Bull.*

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Government Orders.

CIVIL APPOINTMENT.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT, MAY 1, 1823.

Mr. Frederick Nepean, Assistant to the Sub-Treasurer.

MILITARY.

General Orders, by the Honorable the Governor General in Council.
FORT WILLIAM; APRIL 24, 1823.

No. 383. The Honorable the Governor General in Council is pleased to dispense with the Committees of Survey and Valuation of the Cavalry Horses, Draft and Carriage Cattle of the Army hitherto assembled and whose Proceedings were ordered to be closed on the 30th April of each year, and to direct that Committees of Officers for casting such of the Draft or Carriage Cattle, viz. Elephants, Camels, Bullocks, Mules or Tanghans, as shall be deemed worn out or otherwise to have become unfit for further Service, shall be assembled at all Stations, Posts, and Detachments, of the Army, on the 1st of May annually, being the period fixed for Casting Horses belonging to the Cavalry and to the Artillery.

2. To enable the Military Auditor General to be prepared to furnish the Accountant in the Military Department with an annual Valuation Statement of the Hon'ble Company's Property in Quick Stock, comprising Dragoon and Light Cavalry, European and Native mounted Artillery and Foot Artillery Horses; Elepha Camels, Draft, and Carriage Bullocks, Mules, and Tanghans, accnts, to a Standard rate for each description, with which the Military Auditor General will be furnished for guidance, the Honorable the Governor General in Council requests His Excellency the Commander in Chief will be pleased to cause that Officer to be furnished by the Adjutant General of the Army as early as practicable after the 30th April of each year with a Numerical Abstract of the whole, viz.

	No.
H. M. Dragoons,	
European Horse Artillery,	
Native ditto ditto,	
Foot Artillery Brigades,	
8 Regiments Light Cavalry,	
Governor General's Body Guard,	
Koonkies or Decoy,	
Elephants, { Standard,	
{ Undersized,	
{ Express,	
Camels, { Sowarree,	
{ Carriage,	
{ Carriage Bullocks,	
Draft, { Mules,	
{ Tanghans,	

FORT WILLIAM; MAY 2, 1823.

No. 1 of 1823.—The Governor General in Council is pleased to make the following Alterations of Rank, Promotions and Appointments in the Ordnance Commissariat Departments:

Conductor George Foote to rank from the 15th November 1822, vice Boardman deceased.

Conductor Joseph Hamilton to rank from the 9th January 1823, in succession to Fletcher deceased.

Conductor William Raynor to rank from the 14th January 1823, in succession to Joyce promoted.

Sub-Conductor Frederick Mann to be Conductor, vice Boardman deceased, with rank from the 24th February 1823, in succession to Logan deceased.

Sub-Conductor John Patchett to be Conductor, from the 8th April 1823, in succession to Walker promoted.

Sub-Conductor John Medicott to be Conductor, from the 23d April 1823, consequent on the Establishment of a Magazine at Singapore.

The undermentioned Non Commissioned Officers to be Sub Conductors from the dates expressed opposite to their names.

Serjeant-Major Edward Treason of the 1st Battalion 16th Regiment Native Infantry, 23d February 1823.

Serjeant John MacReid, Magazine Serjeant at Allahabad, 24th February, 1823.

Serjeant James Gilbert, attached to the Calcutta Town Guards, 3d March, 1823,

Serjeant George Gordon of Artillery, park Serjeant at Malown, 6th April 1823.

Serjeant-Major Robert Renny of the 1st Battalion 24th Regiment Native Infantry, 23d April 1823.

No. 2 of 1823.—Brevet Captain G. Wm. Aylmer Lloy, Interpreter and Quarter Master 1st Battalion 23th Regiment Native Infantry, is permitted to visit Bombay on account of his Private Affairs, preparatory to applying for leave to proceed from thence to Europe on Furlough.

Lieutenant Wm. Mactier, Interpreter and Quarter Master 4th Regiment Light Cavalry, is permitted to proceed to New South Wales for the recovery of his Health, and to be absent on that account for Twelve Months from Bengal.

The leave of absence obtained by Captain Hy. Cork, of the 4th Regiment Native Infantry, in General Orders of the 26th August last, is further extended for Ten Months from the expiration of the period therein specified, on account of his health.

The leave of absence obtained by Lieutenant T. Lamb of the 12th Regiment Native Infantry, Barrack Master 2d Division, in General Orders of the 21st February 1822, is extended to the 1st of December next, on account of his health.

Brevet Captain John Ostiffe Reckett, of the 22d Regiment Native Infantry, is permitted, at his own request, to resign the Service of the Honorable Company, from the 1st Instant.

Brevet Captain A. Smith, Adjutant of the Furruckabad Provincial Battalion, obtained leave, in the Judicial Department, under date the 1st Instant, to be absent from his Station for three Months, from the 20th Current, to enable him to visit the Presidency, on his Private Affairs.

Erratum in Government General Orders, dated the 24th April 1823. Para. 1, line 3. Printed Copy. For "1 Naick," read "2 Naicks." The Order Books to be corrected accordingly.

FORT WILLIAM; MAY 2, 1823.

No. 3 of 1823.—The undermentioned Officers, Cadets of the 3d class of the Season 1807, who on the 30th April 1823, were Subalterns of fifteen years standing, are promoted to the rank of Captain by Brevet from that date, agreeably to the Rule prescribed by the Honourable the Court of Directors.

Lieutenant Samuel Peter Crockett Humfrays, of the 18th Regt. N. I. Lieutenant John Henry Simmonds, 29th Ditto, Lieutenant James Milne Sim, 11th Ditto, Lieutenant William Churcher Oniel, 16th Ditto, Lieutenant Mathew Alender Burnbery 10th ditto Lieutenant James Marshall, H. C. Enr. Regt. Lieutenant John Donlop, 4th Regt. N. I. Lieutenant Henry Fisher Solters, 2d Regt. Lt. Cy. Lieutenant John Angelo, 3d Ditto.

FORT WILLIAM; MAY 2, 1823.

No. 4 of 1823.—It will on all occasions be the duty of Officers in Command to discharge in Public Orders, any Extra or Marching Establishments with Corps or Detachments of whatever description, on arrival in Cantonments or at their destination, on relief, &c. should such Corps or Detachment not be able to take up their Barracks, Quarters or Lines, immediately on arrival, or the Troops be compelled to encamp from whatever cause in or near the Cantonments, the Marching Establishments are nevertheless to be discharged, or not entertained, (as the case may be), with exception to such portion of Lascars as may be indispensably necessary with European Corps, to look after the Public Tents, while pitched.

Commanding Officers will be held responsible for any neglect of this Order.

FORT WILLIAM; MAY 2, 1823.

No. 5 of 1823.—It having been brought under the notice of Government, that the names of Privates William Hobbs and Joseph Turner, of His Majesty's 17th Foot, have been erroneously inserted in the List of out Pensioners of Chelsea Hospital, received from England, and published in General Orders of the 18th ultimo, as the men obtained permission to reside, and draw their Stipends at the Cape of Good Hope, whither they have proceeded, the Governor General in Council directs, that the names of Privates Hobbs and Turner, be struck off the list accordingly.

FORT WILLIAM; MAY 2, 1823.

No. 6 of 1823.—The Governor General in Council is pleased to make the following appointment.

Assistant Surgeon John Allen to perform the Medical duties of the northern Division of Moradabad, and to be attached to Mr. N. I. Halded, Collector and Joint Magistrate of that portion of the District, vice Assistant Surgeon A. Davidson, permitted to return to the Milit. branch of the Service.